

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-03 IO-13 CCO-00 CIAE-00  
OTPE-00 FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-06 COME-00  
BIB-01 ACDA-07 DODE-00 PM-04 NASA-01 NSC-05 ERDA-05  
OES-06 SS-15 SP-02 /096 W  
-----272242Z 004117 /73

P 272142Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9014

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E.OYX 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETEL, ITU, CITEL, CO  
SUBJECT: GEOSYNCHRONOUS ORBIT AND TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY

REF: STATE 309022

1. EMBASSY POL OFF DELIVERED AIDE MEMOIRE DECEMBER 27TH  
TO UNDERSECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CONFERENCES  
JOAQUIN FONSECA CONCERNING SUBJECT, DRAWING ON POINTS IN PARA 2  
RETEL. FONSECA SAID HE APPRECIATED US VIEW THAT TECHNICAL NATURE  
OF UPCOMING WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE RADIO CONFERENCE (WARC)  
MIGHT MAKE IT AN UNSUITABLE PLACE TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF NATIONAL  
SOVEREIGNTY OVER GEOSYNCHRONOUS ORBIT.

2. NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID, COLOMBIA INTENDED TO USE ALL  
APPROPRIATE FORA TO PUBLICIZE ITS POSITION, INCLUDING THE WARC  
HE HAD BEEN APPOINTED A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION IN ORDER TO  
DISCUSSTHE POLITICAL QUESTION, WHICH HE CLAIMED WOULD BE DONE  
IN A MOST CORDIAL AND FRIENDLY MANNER. ACCORDING TO FONSECA,  
THE INTERESTED EQUATORIAL COUNTRIES WILL HOLD A STRATEGY  
MEETING PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE.

3. FONSECA WAS EVASIVE WHEN ASKED WHETHER COLOMBIA WOULD  
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REQUEST THE WARC TO TAKE A POSITION ON THE SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE.  
HE STATED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER LIEVANO HAD NOT YET IMPARTED  
FINAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE DELEGATION. HE INDICATED HE WOULD  
LET US KNOW OF ANY IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS PRIOR TO HIS  
DEPARTURE FOR GENEVA APPROXIMATELY JANUARY 6.

4. COMMENT: FONSECA, WHO IS THE PRINCIPLE ARCHITECT OF COLOMBIAN CONCEPTS OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY OVER GEOSYNCHRONOUS ORBIT, WAS OBVIOUSLY DELIGHTED ABOUT THE ATTENTION THE USG IS GIVING THE ISSUE. COLOMBIA BELIEVES THAT X CHANGE IN THE RULES OF THE GAME CONCERNING SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE A LONG DRAWN OUT PROCESS AT BEST, ANT THEREFORE IT IS BETTER TO START A DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES SOONER RATHER THAN LATER. OUR EXPERIENCE WITH FONSECA IS THAT HE CAN BE DEPENDED ON TO KEEP THE DISCUSSION FRIENDLY AND WITHOUT RANCOR.  
SANCHEZ

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SOVEREIGNTY, AIDE MEMOIRE, MEETING PROCEEDINGS, COMMUNICATION SATELLITES, RADIO FACSIMILE SYSTEMS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** saccheem  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BOGOTA12666  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760473-0377  
**From:** BOGOTA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761211/aaaaajbh.tel  
**Line Count:** 71  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 309022  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** saccheem  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by saccheem>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GEOSYNCHRONOUS ORBIT AND TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY  
**TAGS:** ETEL, CO, US, ITU, CITEL, (FONSECA, JOAQUIN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006